

HOUSE RESOLUTION 143

By Armstrong

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Harold G. Woods of Knoxville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Harold G. Woods; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woods was an exemplary public servant and consummate professional who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for his fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, for a number of years, Harold Woods served with honor, dignity, and bravery as a member of the Green Berets, 7th Special Forces out of Fort Bragg, North Carolina. Upon returning to Tennessee, Mr. Woods became a mechanic specialist for the Aluminum Company of America in Alcoa, in which position he earned the respect of his peers and superiors alike for the exemplary quality of his work; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his sterling work as a mechanic specialist, Harold Woods also served proudly as a union representative for thirty-seven years, held membership in Steelworker's Local 309, and stood as president of the Knoxville-Oak Ridge Area Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO, for an impressive term of twenty-four years. He also held the posts of president and board member of the Tennessee State AFL-CIO and political coordinator for the National AFL-CIO; and

WHEREAS, a firm believer in the importance of community service, Mr. Woods dedicated his time and energies to a number of civic organizations and endeavors, including serving on the boards of East Tennessee PBS Channel 2/15, Cornerstone of Recovery, and the Tennessee State Democratic Party Executive Committee. He was also a charter member of

Project Help and held membership in the United Way, Boy Scouts of America, Child and Family Services, the American Red Cross, and the National Family Services of America; and

WHEREAS, Harold G. Woods was appointed by several of Tennessee's governors to serve as the Labor Representative on the Tennessee Corrections Industries State Board and he held positions on the Knoxville-Knox County Community Action Committee, the Knox County Industrial Development Board, and the Private Industry Council; and

WHEREAS, he was also a valued member of the Steelworker Organization of Active Retirees, IATSE Local 197, and OPEIU Local 144, as well as the Meade's Quarry Neighborhood Group; and

WHEREAS, no stranger to awards and accolades, Mr. Woods was the recipient of the 1989 National United Way Joseph Beirne Labor Award of the Year, the 2001 National CAC Jayne Thomas Grassroots Volunteer Award of the Year, the George Meany Boy Scout Volunteer Labor Award, the AFL-CIO Labor Council Community Services Award, and the 2013 Truman Champions Award given by the Knox County Democratic Party; and

WHEREAS, Harold Woods was an active and devout member of the Island Home Baptist Church, which he served faithfully for many years; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woods was also deeply devoted to his family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Harold Woods enjoyed the loving companionship of his wife of fifty-two years, Sylvia Woods, and was the proud father and father-in-law of Harold Woods and David and Lora Woods; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Woods was preceded in death by his parents, Sherman J. and Zora Woods, and his siblings, Tommy L. Woods, Barbara Barnes, and Edria Cole, and he will be sorely missed by his grandchildren, Steven Woods, Sara Woods, and Hannah Woods, his brother, Woody Woods, and a host of nieces and nephews; and

WHEREAS, Harold Woods leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we honor the memory of Harold G. Woods, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to living the examined life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Woods.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.